

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-20 IO-14 /112 W

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R 281530Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1257

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1765

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJ: OAU SEC-GEN ETEKI'S LIBREVILLE PRESS CONFERENCE

OAU SECRETARY-GENERAL ETEKI VISITED LIBREVILLE JUNE 24-27 TO BRIEF OAU CHAIRMAN BONGO ON PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT MONTH'S KHARTOUM SUMMIT. FOLLOWING A TWO HOUR MEETING WITH BONGO JUNE 27, ETEKI GAVE TELEVISED PRESS CONFERENCE. MANY OF HIS COMMENTS DURING CONFERENCE HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPORTED THROUGH INTERNATIONAL SERVICES INCLUDING VOICE OF AMERICA BUT DEPARTMENT AND INFO ADDRESSEES

MAY BE INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING ITEMS WHICH GIVEN MOST PLAY BY GABONESE PRINTED PRESS:

A. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT RANGE FROM MODIFICATION OF OAU CHARTER TO DECLARATION OF AFRICAN DAY IN MEMORY OF STEVE BIKO.

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B. WESTERN SAHARAN QUESTION WILL BE ON AGENDA BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR IN WHAT MANNER IT WILL BE CONSIDERED.

∴ "THE SECOND INVASION OF SHABA WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF

THE SUMMIT." FISSURES WITHIN OAU SUCH AS THAT MANIFESTED BETWEEN "MODERATES" AND "PROGRESSIVES" OVER SHABA, ARE NOT NEW AND WILL CONTINUE FOR A LONG TIME, BUT NO ONE REALLY WANTS TO SEE THE OAU BREAK UP. ALTHOUGH DURING THIS PERIOD OF "TURBULENCE", STATES INVOLVED IN CONFLICTS WILL ATTEMPT TO FIND ALLIES, THIS SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO DESTROY THE OAU. RATHER THE ORGANIZATION'S ROLE SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED IN ORDER TO HALT ALL DESTABILIZING TENDENCIES NOW THREATENING AFRICA.

D. THE OAU CHARTER DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR STRENGTHENING ROLES OF CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY-GENERAL BECAUSE NECESSITY OF THEIR TAKING STRONG ACTION WAS NOT FORESEEN AT TIME OF CRAFTING.

3. OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE AGREED TO EXAMINE REUNION INDEPENDENCE QUESTION AT REQUEST OF REUNION INDEPENDENCE LEADERS. RESOLUTION STILL MUST BE APPROVED OR REJECTED BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND CHIEFS OF STATE. FRENCH INDIGNATION IS NATURAL BUT ARTICLE 2 OF OAU CHARTER STIPULATES THAT ORGANIZATION COVERS AFRICAN CONTINENT AND NEIGHBORING ISLANDS.TIENKEN

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